

Application No.: 10/017,418

Attorney Docket No.: 10541-794

**I. Listing of the Claim**

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

9. (Previously Presented): A composite drive shaft comprising:

a plurality of discrete elongated stiffening mold members, said elongated stiffening mold members arranged parallel to a central axis, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members extend longitudinally through the full length of the composite drive shaft; and

composite fibrous material extending around said elongated stiffening mold members in a cylindrical shape to hold said elongated stiffening mold members in place.

10. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a trapezoidal cross-section.

11. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a T shaped cross-section.

12. (Original): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a circular shape.

13. (Original): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members are removable from the drive shaft to leave structural voids.

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Claims 14-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Original): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said structural voids extend longitudinally through the full length of the composite drive shaft.

17. (Original): The composite drive shaft of claim 9, wherein said structural voids extend longitudinally through a portion of the length of the composite drive shaft.

Claims 18-39 (Cancelled).

40. (Currently Amended): A composite drive shaft comprising:  
a plurality of discrete elongated stiffening mold members, said elongated stiffening mold members arranged parallel to a central axis, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members extend longitudinally through a portion of the length of said the composite drive shaft, said elongated stiffening mold members being removable from said composite drive shaft to leave structural voids therein; and  
composite fibrous material extending around said elongated stiffening mold members in a cylindrical shape to removably hold said elongated stiffening mold members in place.

41. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 40, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a trapezoidal cross-section.

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42. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 40, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a T shaped cross-section.

43. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 40, wherein said elongated stiffening mold members have a circular shape.

44. (Cancelled).

45. (Previously Presented): The composite drive shaft of claim 40, wherein said structural voids extend longitudinally through a portion of the length of the composite drive shaft.

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